

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 04948 300803Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 DHA-02

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R 300700Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8001

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4948

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY AND MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY

REF: STATE 148782

1. IN TRYING TO WIN TURKISH SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS IN MULTILATERAL FORUMS, WE MUST KEEP IN MIND TURKEY'S PREOCCUPATION WITH ITS RIVALRY WITH GREECE. (THIS RIVALRY IS NORMALLY MANIFESTED IN THE CYPRUS AND AEGEAN ISSUES.) VIRTUALLY EVERYTHING TURKEY DOES IN MULTILATERAL FORUMS IS CONTROLLED BY THIS PREOCCUPATION.

THUS, IF IN A MULTILATERAL FORUM GREECE (OR CYPRUS) TAKES A POSITION SUPPORTIVE OF A MAJOR VOTING BLOC, SUCH AS THE ARAB STATES, TURKEY WILL NOT BE LESS SUPPORTIVE. FOR EXAMPLE, TURKEY HAS SUPPORTED ANTI-ISRAELI EFFORTS AT THE UNGA, ISLAMIC CONFERENCE, AND UNESCO DESPITE EFFORTS OF THE US, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 04948 300803Z

THE EC-9, AND ISRAEL ITSELF (WITH WHOM IT RETAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS). ALTHOUGH IT EXPLAINS ITS VOTE IN SUBSTANTIVE TERMS, THE DECISION IS NORMALLY MADE IN A BID TO GAIN SUPPORT --OR NOT LOSE SUPPORT--AGAINST GREECE. TURKEY HAS IN A SENSE BECOME A ONE-ISSUE COUNTRY, AND IT IS VULNERABLE TO PRESSURES EXERTED BY OTHER ONE-ISSUE COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT VOTE IN LARGE BLOCS.

2. TURKEY KNOWS THAT THE US POSITION ON GREEK-TURKISH ISSUES
WILL BE DECIDED ON THE BASIS OF A NUMBER OF CONSIDERATIONS,
AND THAT TURKISH SUPPORT OR LACK OF SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION ON
OTHER ISSUES WILL NOT BE A PRIMARY CONSIDERATION.
THEREFORE, THE GOT WILL OFTEN AGREE WITH OUR POSITION IN PRINCIPLE
BUT VOTE AGAINST IT IN HOPES OF INFLUENCING COUNTRIES WHO
MIGHT BE WILLING TO SUPPORT TURKEY VIS-A-VIS GREECE. ALL THIS
IS NOT TO ARGUE THAT WE SHOULD NOT SEEK TURKEY'S SUPPORT FOR OUR
POSITIONS BUT RATHER THAT WE SHOULD CHOOSE OUR ISSUES CAREFULLY,
START EARLY, AND RECOGNIZE THE LIMITS OF OUR BARGAINING
POSITION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA04948
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770233-0629
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977065/aaaaadpx.tel
Line Count: 75
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 148782
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2125625
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKEY AND MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, TU, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6dca7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009